



CEDRIC B. GLOVER
MAYOR

ROD RICHARDSON
Director of Communications

505 Travis Street Suite 200
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101
Tel. 318.673.5008
Fax. 318.673.5087
Cell. 318.525.7039

rod.richardson@shreveportla.gov

PRESS RELEASE

May 10, 2011

City Offers Audits to help Homeowners Lower Energy Bills

The City of Shreveport's Energy Efficiency Division (SEED) is offering a new program to Shreveport homeowners interested in saving on their energy bills. Owners can have "energy audits" of their homes performed to determine whether significant savings can be achieved through energy-efficient improvements.

The audits, which consist of an initial review and a final rating after any improvements are installed, ordinarily cost about \$500. The SEED program will cover the bulk of these costs with funding from the U. S. Department of Energy, with the homeowner ultimately responsible for only \$100 (slightly higher for homes over 2,500 square feet).

In addition to identifying improvements which can significantly reduce utility costs, the audits may qualify homeowners for rebates of up to \$3,000 from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through its "Empower Louisiana HERO (Home Energy Rebate Option) Program." In order to take full advantage of the DNR's HERO rebate program, initial audits need to occur before August 31, 2011. Tax credits may also be available to help offset improvement costs.

Audits must be performed by energy raters who are certified through the DNR's HERO program in order to be eligible for the SEED discount, and in order for improvements to potentially qualify for the HERO rebate. The Green Home Advantage and Residential Inspection Specialist are the local auditing companies that currently meet these requirements.

"With fuel prices and other costs constantly going up and money so tight these days, we are excited to offer a program which we believe can actually help put money back in our residents' pocketbooks by promoting energy conservation and efficiency," Mayor Cedric Glover said. DNR Secretary Scott Angelle stated: "I commend Shreveport for implementing the SEED energy audit program and taking steps to transition to a more sustainable and energy efficient community."

For questions about the SEED audit discount program, contact the City's Energy Efficiency Program Manager, Tracey Graham, at (318) 673-6594 or tracey.graham@shreveportla.gov. To schedule an audit, contact The Green Home Advantage at (318) 210-4972 or Residential Inspection Specialist at (318) 344-9236.

CITY OF SHREVEPORT



CEDRIC B. GLOVER
MAYOR

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

ROD RICHARDSON
Director of Communications

505 Travis Street Suite 200
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101
Tel. 318.673.5008
Fax.318.673.5087
Cell.318.525.7039

rod.richardson@shreveportla.gov

PRESS RELEASE

For questions about the DNR's HERO rebate program, homeowners can contact the HERO program office at (877) 319-1368 or lahero@shawgrp.com, or visit the HERO Existing Homes Program website at <http://www.empowerlouisiana.org/HeroExistingHomesProgram.aspx>.

Media questions for the DNR should be directed to:

Anna Dearmon
Communications Director
Office of Secretary Scott A. Angelle
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
(225) 223-3855
anna.dearmon@la.gov

-SHREVEPORT-
www.shreveportla.gov

[Twitter.com/MayorGlover](https://twitter.com/MayorGlover)

###